

Champions May Be Upset In Park Tennis Tournaments

Many Players Hope to Gain the Crown of Russel Brown.

SEVERAL NEW TEAMS FOR DOUBLES TEST

Possibility of Sectional Competitions Whets Interest of the Many Players Eligible.

Will Russel Brown repeat in the singles?

Will Ray Kriss and Eddie Gordon come through again in the doubles?

These are the questions of the hour among followers of tennis in the public parks. In spite of Brown's hollow victories last year and the scarcely less difficult triumphs of Central's famous doubles pair there are about 10,000 park players who refuse to concede defeat.

Since the possibility of Central's singles champion of the parks not retaining his crown exists, let us consider briefly the chances of the various contenders who have proved by last year's showing they have the right to aspire to the title. Last season saw ten parks represented, and they brought forth the following winners:

PARKS-SINGLES CHAMPIONS.
Bronx—J. M. McLaughlin.
Central—J. M. McLaughlin.
East—J. M. McLaughlin.
Highland—J. M. McLaughlin.
Macomb's Dam—J. M. McLaughlin.
Pittsburgh—J. M. McLaughlin.
Riverside—J. M. McLaughlin.
St. Nicholas—J. M. McLaughlin.
Tennis—J. M. McLaughlin.
Van Cortlandt—J. M. McLaughlin.

And the doubles winners, following the same order, were:

Bronx—L. Berman and E. Guttman.
Central—H. Kohn and H. Kohn.
East—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Highland—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Macomb's Dam—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Pittsburgh—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Riverside—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
St. Nicholas—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Tennis—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.
Van Cortlandt—J. M. McLaughlin and H. Kohn.

*There was a dispute over Russell's championship.

There will be several entries in the coming tournaments from parks that have never competed before, and, of course, out of the thousands who play on the public courts there is always the possibility of a dark horse to be reckoned with, but close observation prompts the opinion that Brown's most dangerous opponents will come, as formerly, from just two parks—Crotona and Prospect.

Incidentally, they will have quite a battle right in his own back yard, Central Park, to achieve the crest. So, whoever wins in the two aforementioned parks—and, neither Crotona nor Prospect, according to players in those sections, is going to have anything like a cinch there—these winners will be the ones in Brown's path to the trophy for 1916.

Doubles Teams Even.

In the doubles there is an even balance of prowess. Practically all the parks came out last year with very smooth-working doubles teams. Still, Central, Crotona and Prospect seem to be the big three again, with that famous international duo—Mulligan and Pazzoni, of Van Cortlandt Park, having an outside chance. These predictions are made, of course, on the supposition that the various pairs are not broken up. A member of Central's winning pair intends to move next autumn to Crotona, so following that other park, Lett Oshmann, will be the one to watch. These predictions are made, of course, on the supposition that the various pairs are not broken up. A member of Central's winning pair intends to move next autumn to Crotona, so following that other park, Lett Oshmann, will be the one to watch.

However, the greater city is assured, no matter who eventually will represent New York, against the other cities of the United States will give an interesting little account of themselves.

SOCCER TEAM EARNS CHANCE AT CROWN

Championship honors and the privilege to play in the annual intercity match against Philadelphia fell to the lot of the soccer eleven of the Staten Island Cricket and Tennis Club as the result of a match played against the team of the Richmond County Field Club in the series of the Field Club Soccer League played on the grounds of the latter at Manor Field, in West New Brighton, Staten Island, yesterday afternoon.

The game ended in a tie at 2 goals to two, but was all the more interesting in that it was the first time since 1915 that the two teams met in a match played on the grounds of the Staten Island Cricket and Tennis Club, which, in case of Staten Island's defeat, would have had a chance for first place.

PLAN TO HOLD BOUTS AT BROOKLYN PARK

Consideration was given yesterday by the members of the State Athletic Commission to an application for the license to conduct bouts in the Washington Park ball grounds, Brooklyn, former home of the Brooklyn Federal League Club.

The application for a license was made by Harry Pollok, Dan McKettrick and Jack Curry. This trio intends to conduct high class bouts throughout the summer months, if a license is granted.

The Commission carefully perused the bond, lease and other necessary papers, and finally left the matter open for further consideration of the application.

BERNSTEIN OVERCOMES KUPCHIK AT CHESS

Manhattan Club Champion Meets an Unexpected Reverse.

Playing his second game in the match for the chess championship of New York State, Ira Kupchik, champion of the Manhattan Chess Club, and holder of the state title, suffered defeat at the hands of J. Bernstein, of the rooms of the Isaac L. Rice Progressive Chess Club, yesterday.

The downfall of the state champion came in remarkably quick order. The game lasting only sixteen moves, Bernstein had the move and essayed the queen's pawn opening, which developed into a variation of the queen's gambit declined. The challenger adopted vigorous tactics on the queen's side of the board, but later when Kupchik wisely deployed his queen on the king's wing, Bernstein gave careful attention to the situation and the game was a draw.

Conditions Are Set.

At a recent meeting of the governing committee the following qualifications were decided upon, which will enable any one who plays in the parks to become a member of the parks tennis club; secondly, he must not be a professional player, or in any other way undesirable, and, lastly, must contribute 25 cents annually for a membership card. The

money thus obtained is to be used to defray the expenses of meetings, sending players to other cities, cups for champions, medals, etc.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, William H. Brown, Jr., Central Park; vice-president, Victor J. Boyce, Van Cortlandt Park; secretary, J. J. McDonagh, Macomb's Dam Park; treasurer, S. L. Rymar, St. James Park. There will be one man selected from each park as chairman to the executive committee, and he in turn will select two or three men to assist in running of the tournament in that particular park.

There will be twelve or more parks entered in the tournament that is to start early in June. The entries will probably total up to a thousand of numbers, perhaps even more. Other cities, will follow, or have already followed, New York's lead. Already plans are afoot to have a team composed of four or five members from New York, St. Louis, Boston, Cincinnati and possibly Los Angeles also.

Cadet Ward, the Commissioner of Parks, is an enthusiastic sponsor of these tournaments. Another ardent advocate is George T. Adee, president of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association.

What will these country-wide contests, if the project be accomplished, mean to the game, and particularly to tennis in the East? An expert with vision, no less an authority than Dwight M. Davis, former head of the national body, has said that from this great influx of younger talent will undoubtedly come many of the champions of the future.

Out of this great, unknown mass of youthful talent of the public parks there may flash forth in the not far distant future perhaps a star, perhaps twin stars, capable of retaking the Davis Cup.

PUBLIC SCHOOL 122 WINS DISTRICT GAMES

Scores 39 Points and Takes T. W. Churchill Trophy.

Spirited competition marked the annual indoor games held by the Thomas W. Churchill District Athletic League, held at the 47th Regiment Armory, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon. More than 500 elementary schoolboys participated in the various events.

The students from Public School 122 corralled 39 points, thereby winning the team trophy. Public School 16 came next, with 27½ points. Third place fell to Public School 50, with 24½ points. The summaries follow:

Forty-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Fifty-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Sixty-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by H. Edelberg, P. S. 12, 8.5; second, P. S. 16, 8.8; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Seventy-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Eighty-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Ninety-yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and ten yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and twenty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and thirty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and forty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and fifty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and sixty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and seventy yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and eighty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

One hundred and ninety yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Two hundred yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Two hundred and ten yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Two hundred and twenty yard dash (10 lb. class).—Won by J. Shapiro, P. S. 16, 8.2 seconds; second, P. S. 12, 8.5; third, J. Lasker, P. S. 16, 8.8; fourth, E. 4.5 seconds.

Lawn Tennis Stars of the Local Park Courts



Oshmann Russel Brown Edward Gordon Roy Kriss

THE SPORTLIGHT by Grantland Rice

are a few better golfers than Herreshoff, but no better sportsmen. Which is also something.

Ballade of the Always There.

*Comets come and comets go;
Big fights flash and fade away;
In the centre of the show
Every canine has his day;
That the Mundane ever may
Draw its daily thrill and throbs,
Only one thing sticks for aye—
Teddy's always on the job.*

In the current's ebb and flow.

*One by one they make their play;
Then the curtain falls—and lo!
There is nothing left to say;
Soon to vanish from the fray
Wagner, Matty, Baker, Cobb;
Only one holds Fate at bay—
Teddy's always on the job.*

In the giddy game we know

*Jeff and Johnson—where are they?
Where within the spotlight's glow
Flash the stars of Yesterday;
Kings at dawn—and then, delay—
Dubs amid the Common Mob;
One alone shall never stray—
Teddy's always on the job.*

Soon the purple fada to grey;

*Mauri's smash is none a lob;
Let the others hit the job;
Teddy's always on the job.*

"I know how the Giants feel about leaving the cellar," writes Pickwick, Jr. "I didn't like my apartment either, but I have decided to stay for another year."

John McGraw has bumped into one of the oldest laws of the game—that you're up things come your way in a rush; and when you're down the same things point in another direction. Just as there is "nothing that succeeds like success," so there is nothing that fails like failure. Not that the Giants are yet to be written as 1916 failures. There is still good material working under one of the game's greatest leaders. But 1914 is a poor year for a bad start with so many strong clubs to overhaul and few weak spots to use for a stampede.

One Reason.

Sir: Why is it that Eddie Plank, who is four years older than Christy Mathewson, is still pitching good ball with Matty about through?

We don't know unless it is that in the same period of servitude Matty has pitched called upon often for more games than Plank, having been called upon often for relief duty. Matty, most of the time, was the Giants' only star pitcher, where Plank was fairly well surrounded most of the way, first by Bender and Waddell and then by Bender and Coombs.

Plank and Waddell together were the strongest set of left-handers that any ball club ever owned. The two best right-handers on one club were probably Mathewson and McGinnity. The greatest pitching staff that ever worked on one club was the Pittsburgh delegation of 1901—Chesbro, Lever, Philippe, Tannehill and Waddell.

Here is something for some of these young ball players who work about 90 or 100 games a season to think about—Hans Wagner, forty-one years old last season, played in 156 games. As the pastime develops the bric-a-brac seems to grow more fragile each year.

The return of Fred Herreshoff to tournament play is one of the cheering signs of the young season. There

Fair Swimmers Will Now Step Into the Limelight

holder of the 500-yard world's swimming record, is eagerly awaited. The recent performances of Herbert Voellmer, Teddy Cann and Joseph Wheatley of the New York A. C. indicate that the Californian will find opponents well worthy of his mettle when he lands here, and stirring competition is anticipated.

Teddy Cann, by the way, has the distinction of being the youngest of America's swimming champions. He is eighteen, and by more than one year the junior of Herman Laubs, of the Missouri Athletic Club, ten-mile title holder and next in age.

The repeated defeats recently suffered by the once invincible Duke Kahanamoku, of Honolulu, have been pretty generally attributed to lack of condition on his part, but certain facts should not be overlooked. The Hawaiian swam 100 yards in 54 seconds, the fastest indoor time of his career, two days before he lost the national title to McMillen; he captured the 200-yard championship last Wednesday in 2:24.5 seconds, the best performance he has ever made in a pool; his indoor record for the 500-yard stands at 2:26.2-5, and Voellmer won at this distance in 2:23.2-5. The remarkable improvement of the home swimmers evidently had a good deal to do with Kahanamoku's downfall.

College water polo is again on the wane. Philadelphia advocates of the soccer game proclaim it most dangerous to life and limb and want it abandoned. Meanwhile, not an accident or injury of any kind has been chronicled against the sport in half a dozen or more years.

The promised visit to the East of Lady Langer, of the Los Angeles A. C.,

BILLIARD WORLD DEFLORES DEATH OF F. CASSIGNOL

C. P. Miller and Maurice Daly Pay Tribute to French Expert.

In the death of Firmin Cassignol the realm of billiards has sustained an irreparable loss. A tournament in which he would compete against William F. Hoppe was designed for the opening of the billiard season next fall. From present indications it seems improbable now that the tourney will be held.

Speaking of the French champion's death, Charles P. Miller, vice-president of the Brunswick-Balke-Coller Company, said: "The death of Cassignol was a billiard calamity, which affects everybody interested in the game. We had made tentative arrangements for an 182 ballgame tournament to provide a new championship. With Cassignol eliminated we can see no reason for holding such a tournament."

"Hoppe's pronounced superiority over all other American players makes a new championship a remote possibility. Before one can be given serious consideration some of the young players, Cochran, Schaefer or Catton, will have to develop strength of play that will justify competition against Hoppe."

"At present the only chance for interesting the public in professional contests at billiards is a match between Sutton and Hoppe. That Sutton in practice is playing as well as ever before is well authenticated, but the question he must answer to the devotees of billiards is, 'Can he come back as a match and tournament player?'"

"Evidently he believes he can, for he has issued a challenge to Hoppe and deposited \$250 in support of it. He has written me that his health is good and his stroke the best he has ever had."

"I sincerely hope he does not overestimate his condition and skill, for, like nearly everybody else who enjoys a real contest at billiards, I am anxious to see somebody put Hoppe to a supreme test."

As an exponent of the beauties of the game of billiards Cassignol had no equal. Enthusiasts who were delighted by his playing described his method and execution as "the poetry of the game," and termed him "the Paderewski of billiards." Possessing musical talent, as a young man, when serving in the French army, he was the leader of his regimental band.

As a billiardist there was rhythm and harmony in his manipulation of the ivory spheres. While not so brilliant as Jacob Schaefer, as positive and mechanical as Frank C. Ives, nor so generally resourceful as William F. Hoppe, he was more attractive than either. When a well man, as a masseur, he was the most original, artistic and accurate executant the world has ever seen.

Instead of avoiding mass positions Cassignol favored them. With relation to second ball play he cultivated a system he termed "the second ball lives." Excepting when he had a nursing position, he invariably studied and played to keep the cue ball a couple of inches or more from the second object ball. On May 1 the end came to his efforts to stop the cue ball close to the second object.

When he arrived at the trench to instruct the young layer as to the employment of his gun was to be expected, he found the officer of the platoon in the immediate section to be none other than Lieutenant L. E. Milburn, of the 4th Suffolk, a well known lawn tennis player and a good friend of his.

"He was an splendid fellow," recalls Milburn, "and seemed thoroughly pleased that at last he had been allowed to bring his gun right into the firing line. He said that he had a free hand, and that if the British attack were successful he intended to go forward with the trailer as soon as possible. Of course, everybody knew that the morning of the 9th meant a lot of dirty work to be done."

That day in the trenches Anthony met another lawn tennis friend, Lieutenant R. S. Barnes, also of the 4th Suffolk. They sat in the latter's dug-out, exchanging many lawn tennis reminiscences.

Just before Wilding wrapped himself in an old coat to snatch a brief sleep, Barnes said to him: "Well, old man, you're in for it and rain-bombing. But other champions had enjoyed the same prerogative; they had not created the same bonds."

His Great Manliness.

"Anthony Wilding had more than his body to offer the world. The man was finer than his play. He possessed that rare, elusive quality called personal magnetism. Beneath his perfectly developed frame there beat the heart of a child."

"Yet when the real test came—in sport or in war—Anthony Wilding revealed a steadfastness, a faculty for concentration, a self-reliance and a resourcefulness which made up a strong character. Physically and mentally he became a man; spiritually, he was a boy until the end."

"He was not," says Meyers, "a scholar. He cared nothing for politics; he hated war. Of books, music and the fine arts he had but cursory knowledge. He never played or dressed the part of 'the man about town.' He had no use for stimulants or narcotics; he neither smoked cigars nor drank whiskey."

"Wheels and petrol and quick motion he loved—loved them because, himself a perfect human machine, designed for rapid propulsion, he was instinctively drawn to machines created by man for the same object."

He Hated War.

Tony Wilding was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, October 31, 1885. He hated war in the abstract, says Meyers. He had no quarrel against the Germans, or, for that matter, against any man; his was not a pugnacious nature.

But Tony had the instinctive love of the overseas man for the motherland. He answered his country's call, just like the rest of the famous British tennis players, five of whom, including Wilding, have won captaincies in the English army.

At first Wilding obtained a second lieutenantcy in the Royal Marines, by which his intimate knowledge of the Continent, his coolness and his skill as a motor driver were employed in the Headquarters Intelligence Corps.

Shortly afterward he joined Commander Samson, R. N., of the Naval Service, and then, when the squadron was ordered to the Dardanelles, joined the Duke of Westminster's new squadron of Rolls-Royce armored cars.

In May Wilding took part in a great attack on May 19, the end came to his efforts to stop the cue ball close to the second object.

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Frank Kramer, the national cycling champion, will have his first test in a match race at the Newark Velodrome this afternoon, when the contests postponed from last Sunday will be resumed. Kramer will meet Bob Spears, Australian, in a half-mile best-two-in-three heat match.